

7. EPIPREMNUM Schott, Bonplandia (Hannover) 5: 45. 1857.

麒麟叶属 qi lin ye shu

Li Heng (李恒 Li Hen); Peter C. Boyce

Lianas, large to very large. Stems robust, woody, branched and rooting. Leaves long petiolate; petiole with pulvinus at junction with leaf blade, somewhat sheathing at base; leaf blade large, entire, pinnatifid, or pinnatisect, with perforations along midrib or not. Inflorescences terminal or sometimes displaced, solitary; peduncle robust. Spathe caducous, cymbiform, ovate, acute or acuminate. Spadix sessile. Flowers bisexual, sometimes with female ones at spadix base and these sterile, lacking perigone. Stamens 4(–6); filaments linear, flat; anthers much shorter than filaments; thecae ellipsoidal, longitudinally dehiscent. Ovary polygonal-cylindric, apex truncate, 1-loculed; ovules 2–4, inserted at base of parietal placenta, sometimes 6–8, distichous on parietal placenta, anatropous, with short funicle; stigma sessile, linear-oblong, longitudinal. Fruit small. Seeds reniform, usually striate.

About 20 species: tropical Asia, Australia, Pacific islands; one species in China.

Epipremnum aureum (Linden & Andre) Bunting is cultivated in gardens.

1. *Epipremnum pinnatum* (Linnaeus) Engler, Pflanzenz. 37(IV. 23B): 60. 1908.

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Pothos pinnatus Linnaeus, Sp. Pl., ed. 2, 2: 1324. 1763; *Epipremnum angustilobum* K. Krause; *E. elegans* Engler; *E. formosanum* Hayata; *E. glauicephalum* Elmer; *E. merrillii* (Engler) Engler & K. Krause; *E. mirabile* Schott; *Monstera caudata* (Roxburgh) Schott; *M. dilacerata* (K. Koch & Sello) C. Koch; *M. pinnata* (Linnaeus) Schott; *M. pinnatifida* (Roxburgh) Schott; *Polypodium laciniatum* N. L. Burman; *Pothos caudatus* Roxburgh; *P. pinnatifidus* Roxburgh; *Rhaphidophora caudata* (Roxburgh) Schott; *R. cunninghamii* Schott; *R. dilacerata* (K. Koch & Sello) C. Koch; *R. formosana* Engler (1879); *R. formosana* (Hayata) M. Hotta (1970); *R. laciniata* (N. L. Burman) Merrill; *R. lovellae* F. M. Bailey; *R. merrillii* Engler; *R. neocaledonica* Guillaumin; *R. pertusa* (Roxburgh) Schott var. *vitiensis* (Schott) Engler; *R. pinnata* (Linnaeus) Schott; *R. pinnatifida* (Roxburgh) Schott; *R. vitiensis* Schott; *R. wallichii* Schott; *Scindapsus caudatus* (Roxburgh) Schott & Endlicher; *S. dilaceratus* K. Koch & Sello; *S. forsteri* Endlicher; *S. pinnatifidus* (Roxburgh) Schott; *S. pinnatus* (Linnaeus) Schott; *Tornelia dilacerata* (K. Koch & Sello) Schott.

Root climbers, to 15 m. Mature stem 5–40 mm in diam., internodes separated by prominent leaf scars, obscured by sheath fibers, active stems lustrous green with prominent irregular longitudinal whitish crests. Foliage leaves often clustered distally; petiole dark green, 19.5–60 cm × 3–13 mm, canalicu-

late, smooth; apical pulvinus 16–70 × 3–5 mm, basal pulvinus 3–7 × 1–1.5 cm; petiolar sheath extending to halfway along apical pulvinus, disintegrating into netted fibers; leaf blade ovate to oblong-elliptic, 10–93 × 5–60 cm, submembranous, base slightly cordate, regularly pinnatifid to pinnatisect, apex acuminate; pinnae paler abaxially, adaxially dark green, 1.2–6.5 cm wide, with tiny perforations along and adjacent to midrib, pinnae each with 1 primary lateral vein and several parallel interprimary veins, higher order venation reticulate, midrib prominently raised abaxially, impressed adaxially. Inflorescence several together, partially obscured by netted fibers; peduncle pale green, 5.5–21.5 cm × 4–10 mm, terete. Spathe dull yellow to mid-green outside, dull yellow or pale green inside, canoe-shaped, 7–23.5 × 3–15 cm, stoutly attenuate to 15 mm, opening almost flat at anthesis. Spadix sessile, white, later glaucous gray-green to yellow, cylindric, 8.5–25 × 1.1–3.5 cm, base slightly obliquely inserted. Flowers 3–7 mm in diam. Ovary cylindric, 4–12 × 2–7 mm, basal part slightly compressed; ovules 2 or 3; stylar region trapezoid, 3–7 × 1.5–4 mm, rather robust, truncate; stigma longitudinally linear-oblong, 2–6 × 0.1–0.5 mm. Fruit mid-green. Seeds reniform, ca. 4.5 × 3.5 mm. Fl. Apr–Jul.

Tropical rain forests, mountain forests, creeping and climbing on trees, rocks, or stone walls; below 2000 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam; Australia (Queensland), Pacific islands].

The plants are used medicinally to treat traumatic injuries, abscesses, and rheumatic arthralgia.

Fl. China 23: 14–15. 2010.